

REMARKS

This preliminary amendment is being filed concurrently with Applicants' application DB 053337 (US), for which a serial number has not yet been assigned.

The specification has been amended to insert a reference to the corresponding International Application. Claims 1-9 have been amended to put them in better form. No new matter has been added by these amendments and they do not affect the scope of the claims as originally filed.

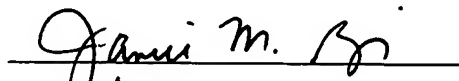

It is not believed that any fee is required for entry and consideration of this Amendment; nevertheless, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge U.S. PTO Deposit Account 08-2336 in the amount of any such required fee.

Respectfully submitted,



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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" in an envelope addressed to: U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Mail Stop PCT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on September 13, 2004 with the number of the Express Mail label being ER935733540US.



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